Noes

1.	Mr. C. R. Iyyunni	9.	Mr. T. Narayana Menon
2.	,, E. Ikkanda Warriar	10.	,, Khan Sahib Y. Muhammad Roshan Sahib Bahadur
3.	,, N. Govinda Pai		
4.	,, S. S. Koder	11.	Dr. T. Verghese
5.	,, V. K. Kutty	12.	Mr. M. Sivarama Menon
6.	,, M. Raman Menon	13.	,, C. J. Mathew
7.	,, P. V. Raphael	14.	,, A. Madhava Prabhu
8.	,, K. Karunakaran Nayar	15.	,, Rama Varmha Tampuran

Panel Chairman: 14 against 15.

Motion lost

CUT MOTION No. 4

For constructing Excise Posts in all places where Excise Peons are Posted on duty

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 14,053 for Office Establishment-Excise by Rs. 2.*

(To urge upon Government the immediate necessity for constructing Excise posts in the borders of State in all Taluks where Excise peons are posted on duty)

സാധുക്കളായ എക്സൈസ്സ് ശിപായിമാക്ക് ഡ്യൂട്ടിയിൽ നില്ക്കുമ്പോൾ വെയിലും മഴയും കൊള്ളാതിരിക്കുവാൻ ഒരു ഷെഡ്ഡ് ഉണ്ടാക്കി കൊടുക്കണമെന്നപേക്ഷിക്കുവാനാണ്. ഞാൻ നെന്മാറയിൽനിന്നു വരുമ്പോൾ മഴ നനഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ട് ഒരു ശിപായി ഡ്യൂട്ടിയിൽ നില്ക്കുന്നതു കാണുകയുണ്ടായി. രാജ്യാതൃത്തിയിൽ എല്ലാ താലൂക്കുകളിലും എക്സൈസ്സ് പോസ്റ്റ് ഉണ്ടെന്നാണു ഞാൻ ധരിച്ചിരുന്നതു്. ഇപ്പോഴിടയിലാണ് എല്ലാ സ്ഥലത്തും ഇല്ലെന്നു എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലായതു്. ഈ സാധുക്കൾ വെയിലും മഴയും ഒന്നുപോലെ സഹിക്കണം. ഇപ്പോൾ നെല്ലും അരിയുംകൂടി അവരുടെ നിയന്ത്രണത്തിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതു പരിശോധിക്കുവാൻ സൌകര്യമായി ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ഏർപ്പാട് ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് വളരെ ആവശ്യമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. അവർ നിശ്ചയിക്കപ്പെട്ട സ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നു മാറിനില്ക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഫൈൻ, ഫൈനും ഉദ്യോഗശമ്പളക്കാരായ ആ സാധുക്കളെ ഡിസ്മിസ്സ് ചെയ്കയും ചെയ്യും. അതുമൂലം അവർ എത്ര കഷ്ടത സഹിച്ചാലും സ്ഥലംവിട്ടു മാറാതെ നില്ക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ടു നാലോ അഞ്ചോ ഉദ്യോഗം ചിലവു ചെയ്തിട്ട് അവർക്കു തല്ക്കാലം ഓരോ ഷെഡ്ഡുണ്ടാക്കി കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു മാത്രമേ എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളൂ.

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Commissioner of Excise):* In all the old posts there are buildings, either owned or rented by the Government. Certain new posts have been created where recently orders have been passed to construct temporary sheds.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം പിൻവലിക്കുന്നു.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 5

Liquor is sold in tea shops in Trichur

***Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar** *(Cheruthuruthi):* Sir, I move *to reduce the allotment of Rs. 21,497 preventive force by Re. 1.* The object stated in the cut motion is *to discuss the present Excise policy of Government with particular reference to the policy of shutting its eyes against the practice of selling alcohol in tea shops.*

It is a long time since this Council had the privilege of discussing the Excise budget. It so happened that the Excise was shunted on towards the end and this Council could not reach those subjects so much so that we heard the Hon'ble Member for Kunnamkulam even forgetting what exactly the policy of the Council is. He has heard a lot of noice about prohibition and other cries made in the name of prohibition on the floor of this House and he even complained today that this Council is not even for prohibition or at any rate this Council is not making that cry for prohibition. No doubt, it makes one very diffident to stand up here and make a cry lest I am afraid that it may be a cry in the wilderness, particularly so when I heard this motion itself moved with a great tribute paid to the toddy by the Hon'ble Member for Mukundapuram-Ezhuvas. He was telling us the glories of toddy. Although it makes me to some extent diffident or rather depressed I am not going to think that this House is certainly for supporting a

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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motion of that kind or endorse the view taken up by that Hon'ble Member. Let us see what the policy of the Government is in this matter. This House was definitely in earlier years for prohibition and the position of the Government as expressed them is this. Maximum revenue and minimum consumption and they would also admit that their ultimate goal is prohibition. But that is very much diluted by the further expansion of the policy "Maximum Revenue and Minimum Consumption." Even there, Sir, there is some desire if I can give any meaning to that minimum consumption and maximum revenue to make the consumption of liquor as less as possible by making the cost of liquor more and more. As a matter of fact I have understood the Government to mean that they would make the cost of liquor so high that it automatically, although the time will be a little far away, the people will cease to drink and we would be able to drive away this curse of drink from our country. That is the position. I have no time nor do I think it would be possible at this fag end of the day when the guillotine is about to fall in another few minutes on the whole budget to start an elaborate discussion or an appeal for prohibition. Let me satisfy myself by saying that the Government is not working out even that goal which they have proclaimed to be their ideal in practice. The Government has forgotten one part of their undertaking to see that liquor is made as costly as possible and thereby reduce the consumption. What we find today is that the Excise Commissioner's sole ambition would appear to be to swell up the income by whatever means possible. They think that they would be judged only by the amounts they are able to increase every year. I don't know whether the Government also encourages them. The Commissioner forms part of the Government and it has become the pride of the persons of the Commissioners to say that the income is increasing. This year it has gone up by a few thousands and in their attempt to do so what is happening is this. They practically connive at the work of the contractors. In order to get a high bid amount they induce the contractors.

Panel Chairman : You have been speaking for the last ten minutes but you have not said one word on the cut motion.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi) :* In two minutes I will finish.

Panel Chairman : I gave you 10 minutes for the general remarks.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi) :* I may not take more than three minutes, Sir. Sir, at the time of the bid they hold out all sorts of promises to these contracts. That is what happens. If you ask me to prove it, it is very difficult. But it is a fact. As a matter of fact they manage to get a high figure and then they yield to the cries of these people. They say "Be ause the bid amount is so high wink your eyes. We have to tap trees which have not been licensed. Otherwise it would not be possible for us." Ultimately we find as a matter of fact in Trichur at any rate—I can speak with personal experience—that this liquor is sold in many of the tea shops.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur) :* How do you know that ?

* **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar** *(Cheruthuruthi) :* If you are so very inquisitive about it I can even say. While I was the Chairman of the Trichur Municipality we were trying to find out the income of the several shopkeepers to assess the professional tax. A petty shopkeeper came and told me that his daily income was 15 to 20 rupees. I was really surprised and asked him how such a small tea shop could fetch him that income. He had confessed it inadvertently and he went back upon his words. But I pursued the matter further and he honestly confessed to me that he was making money by the sale of this liquor and the tea shop is intending to bring a sort of self-respectable people. In order to avoid going to these big shops they do it. I think this thing cannot go on without the officials winking their eyes and trying to help these people. Then there is the other thing. The spirit of this ideal is violated by other means. A large number of people are employed in Trichur to bring toddy in single bottles from one shop to private houses. You can see small *kottas*. The man will be going to Viyyur and coming back again. They make 8 or ten annas a day. That is another way of making money. What I am saying is even this limited ideal which the Government has placed before it in this matter they are not carrying it out.

Then another point which I wish to bring to the notice of this House is this. The complaint raised in the first cut motion in this House is that the contract is given to one man in a particular place and that also affects adversely in this matter. Generally what happend was these neighbouring contractors used to have a sort of supervision and they used to bring to the notice of the Department that illicit sale is going on in that shop and this shop so much so it will be difficult for the department to wink their eyes to these malpractices. But there are now no neighbouring contractors to complain of the malpractices in the other shop so much so in all these ways the Government is not carrying out their promise.

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Mr. President, Sir, I shall not take much of the time of the House. I have on more than two occasions brought to the notice of this House that toddy was being sold at coffee shops in Ernakulam from the time at least of Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, the Superintendent of Excise. As a result an enquiry was made and it seems one or two contractors were punished on that account. The main point that the Commissioner has pressed forward here for not allowing free tapping for sweet toddy is that he was not able to control the tapping of fermented toddy. Sir, this is being done in Palghat Taluk which is a little smaller than Cochin State. There they have only about 57 peons. Here we have got a very large number of peons. There they have no licensing but the administration is carried on peacefully. With such a small force of 57 peons if they can do so I don't know why we could not do so in our administration. I want to bring this point to the notice of the Commissioner.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Sir, I oppose this motion. Now I oppose this motion on three grounds. First of all the motion is based on the assumption that the Government is shutting its eyes to the selling of liquor in tea shops. Now my friend the Hon'ble Member for Cheruthuruthi has been able to bring forward one instance where he happened to haul up one tea shop owner because he was selling illicit liquor. I belong to Trichur and I know Trichur. I too believe in liquor and I can say that my experience has been that liquor is not available in the tea shops in Trichur.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Did you ask for it?

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* I generally ask for liquor when I go to a tea shop. My experience is first hand where my friend's is during the course of an attempt to squeeze the poor shop-keeper to compel him to pay more money on account of the tax. One remarkable argument which he advanced was that if the Government persists in its policy of winking its eyes at the sale of liquor in tea shops, there will be an increase in the number of Kottas. I have understood arguments relevant, irrelevant and contradictory, but the argument of my friend do not belong to any of those categories. When statements are made, in the course of an argument against liquor being sold in tea shops, about the carriage of liquor in Kottas to private houses naturally we think there is some connection between these two statements. If my Hon'ble friend wants that I ought not to think that there is any logic in his arguments, I beg to withdraw that part of my criticism.

My Hon'ble friend has been arguing very vehemently that this Government has been going back upon its policy of prohibition, either total or partial, which was adumberated some years back. My submission to this House is there is absolutely nothing wrong in any progressive Government changing its views. There was a time when we had no responsible Government. Subsequently in 1113 it was decided by the Government that we were sufficiently advanced politically as to be given an Hon'ble Minister to control a few transferred subjects. Now, Sir, after all the same argument can be advanced against that move too. Those who are against Diarchy might say "Here is a Government which has departed from its old ways." There is no meaning whatsoever in such an argument. We have to tackle prohibition as a social reform upon the intrinsic merits of the question. I contend with all the vehimence at my disposal that the policy adopted by the Government, if it is a change of policy, has been a change for the better. What exactly are the intrinsic merits of the reform advocated by the Hon'ble Member for Cheruthuruthi? He says that prohibition is a necessary move. My submission to this House is you have been hearing a series of faddists going about the political field who think that the best way of impressing themselves upon public opinion is by bringing forward new ideals. I say it is spectacular. It catches the imagination. But unfortunately persons who want to delve into the reasons for such advocacy can find that there is practically nothing unless it be the desire to exhibit oneself. In my opinion the use of alcohol is really a necessary thing. *(Hear, hear).* There is one chapter in the old treatise on Ayurveda in which they have advocated the use of alcohol in moderate quantities as being almost essential and necessary for the keeping of proper health. Then further, Sir, it will be found that practically this world is now governed by people who drink alcohol. My friend wants this sort of remarkable effiminate people who don't drink alcohol, who don't believe in alcohol and who go on preaching theories which absolutely do not fit in with present day politics to lay down the law. Now I submit that it is a most unrealistic way of looking at things. I appreciate the visionary enthusiasm of my friend. I hope he will be able to convert people, but it will be at a time when most of us who believe in alcohol cease to exist. I oppose this motion with all the vehemence at my disposal.

The Demand for Rs. 1,37,831 under 7-Excise was put and carried

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The following demands were then put and carried.—

		Rs
6.	Excise (Cranganur) ..	3,248
11.	Forest and Tramway ..	4,46,235
35.	Uplift of the Depressed Classes ..	69,073
24.	Do. (Cranganur) ..	2,350
15.	Finance and Accounts ..	69,425
38.	Miscellaneous ..	32,960
21.	Do. (Cranganur) ..	50
37.	Income-tax ..	21,318
26.	Stationery and Printing ..	1,64,718
23.	Stationery (Cranganur) ..	1,250
12.	Registration ..	1,00,532
8.	Do. (Cranganur) ..	3,537
9.	Stamps ..	23,819
7.	Do. (Cranganur) ..	543
13.	Anchal ..	87,945
9.	Do. (Cranganur) ..	2,459
33.	Rural Development ..	9,737

The House rose for the day at 5-5 p.m.

K. S. RAGHAVAN
Secretary to the Council

APPENDIX I

(See answer to question No. 85)

SCHEDULE I

The Assistant Diwan Peishkar will dispose of all correspondence relating to the Revenue work of the Diwan Peishkar other than those specified below.—

1. All work in connection with the Legislative Council except making arrangements for the conduct of Elections and Bye-elections and preparation of Electoral Rolls. Even in regard to the conduct of Elections and Bye-elections and the preparations of Electoral Rolls, the papers will go to the Diwan Peishkar wherever the Statute directs that a particular function should be exercised by the Diwan Peishkar.
2. Passing of awards in Land Acquisition Cases and Settlement of differences as regards valuation when there is such difference between the Tahsildars and the Departments for whom the lands are acquired. Repayment vouchers and refunds of lapsed deposits will continue to be passed by the Diwan Peishkar. The draft declaration will go in the name of the Diwan Peishkar, as also references to Courts.
3. Reports to Government on matters which are not of a routine character.
4. Matters on which there is disagreement between officers of the Revenue Department and other Departments and Municipalities.
5. All appointments, leave (except casual leave) and punishments.
6. Sanctioning of items of expenditure not of a purely routine character.
7. All Stamp Cases.
8. All bills which, under the *Account Code* have to bear the authority of the Diwan Peishkar.
9. Any other matter which calls for the exercise of the authority conferred on the Diwan Peishkar by any Statute.

SCHEDULE II

Powers delegated to the Personal Assistant to the Diwan Peishkar

1. To exercise all the powers of the Diwan Peishkar under the Land Conservancy Act, IV of 1096.
2. To exercise all the powers of the Diwan Peishkar under the Joint Land Registration Act, II of 1103.
3. To exercise all the powers of the Diwan Peishkar in respect of quarrying and mining referred to in Chapter IV of the *Land Revenue Manual*

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